United Nations

Daily Highlights

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FRIDAY HIGHLIGHTS

+ In meeting tonight on Secretary-General's report "An Agenda for Peace", Security Council urges support for international peace-keeping operations; invites Member States to make their views known on improving United Nations capacity in this field; invites Secretary-General to address measures to make such operations more solid and durable financially.

+ United Nations-supervised election in Cambodia ends with estimated 90 per cent of registered voters participating; Supreme National Council of Cambodia to meet tomorrow in Phom Penh.

+ Secretary-General to send inter-agency humanitarian mission to Zaire at beginning of June to review humanitarian and related needs, particularly of displaced people.

+ Secretary-General to leave New York this weekend for visits to North African countries regarding question of Western Sahara.

+ Eritrea and Principality of Monaco admitted to United Nations as 182nd and 183rd Member States.

+ Interregional Meeting on Role of Family in Socialization of Youth to be held from 31 May to 4 June in Beijing,.

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At a meeting tonight on Secretary-General's report entitled "An Agenda for Peace", the Security Council recommended, among other things, that all States make participation in and support for international peace-keeping a part of their foreign and national security policy.

In a statement read out by Council President, Yuliy Vorontsov (Russian Federation), the Council also expressed its conviction that bold new steps were required to improve the peace-keeping capacity of the United Nations and invited all Member States to make their views known to the Secretary-General on the subject. The latter was invited to submit by September 1993 a further

(more)



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report addressed to all Member States containing specific new proposals on the subject.

In view of the mounting cost and complexity of peace-keeping operations, the Council requested the Secretary-General to address measures designed to place such operations on a more solid and durable financial basis.

The Council members also noted the necessity to strengthen the United Nations potential for preventive diplomacy, and expressed satisfaction at the increased use of fact-finding missions. It also drew attention to the increasing significance of post-conflict peace-building, stressing that in present circumstances peace-building was inseparably linked with maintenance of peace.

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The United Nations-supervised election in Cambodia ended today with a participation of an estimated 90 per cent of the registered voters, according to a United Nations spokesman. The counting of the ballots would begin tomorrow morning and some figures would be available early next week.

The spokesman said the Supreme National Council of Cambodia would meet tomorrow morning at the Royal Palace in Phnom Penh under the chairmanship of Prince Norodom Sihanouk. The Secretary-General's Special Representative for Cambodia, Yasushi Akashi, was expected to make a statement on the voting process.

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Secretary-General Boutros Boutros-Ghali has decided to send an Inter-Agency Humanitarian Needs Assessment Mission to Zaire, according to a statement issued at Headquarters today. The mission, which will be in Kinshasa at the beginning of June, will obtain a first-hand view of the country's humanitarian and related needs, and will seek ways of providing assistance to the affected population, particularly displaced people.

The mission will be led by Darko Silovic of the Department of Humanitarian Affairs, and will include representatives of relevant United Nations agencies and other relief organizations, according to the spokesman. It will visit the most affected regions in the country, and expects to complete its work in around three weeks.

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Secretary-General Boutros Boutros-Ghali will leave New York this weekend for visits to a number of North African countries concerning the question of Western Sahara, according to Secretary-General's Spokesman today.

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The Spokesman informed correspondents earlier this week that Mr. Boutros-Ghali would be travelling to Algeria, Morocco and Tunisia.

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Eritrea and the Principality of Monaco today became the 182nd and 183rd Member States of the United Nations, following their admission to membership by the General Assembly.

In welcoming the new Members this morning, speakers viewed their simultaneous admission as a further step on the path of universality of the Organization. Eritrea was congratulated on the peaceful settlement of its 30-year conflict, and speakers recalled Monaco's long tradition as an active participant in international affairs.

Also this morning, the Assembly decided to add two new items to its agenda: financing of the International Tribunal for the Prosecution of Persons Responsible for Serious Violations of International Humanitarian Law Committed in the Territory of the Former Yugoslavia since 1991 -- to be allocated to the Fifth Committee (Administrative and Budgetary); and election of judges of the International Tribunal -- to be considered directly in plenary.

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An Interregional Meeting on the Role of the Family in the Socialization of Youth will be held in Beijing from 31 May to 4 June 1993. It will help Governments, particularly in developing countries, to formulate guidelines on national youth policy, including measures to support the socialization function of the family.

The Meeting will discuss problems related to enhancing the role of the family in the education and socialization of young people, and family-related elements of national youth policies. Its report will be disseminated widely among national coordinating mechanisms on youth and the 1994 International Year of the Family, and family-related organizations.

The Meeting is being organized by the secretariat of the International Year of the Family and the Youth Policies and Programmes Unit of the Department for Policy Coordination and Sustainable Development, in collaboration with the All-China Youth Federation.

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